

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace paragraph [0046] with the following amended paragraph:

--[0046] Please refer to FIG. 2, which shows the ability of various strains to decompose the rice straw of Japonica Rice. The Japonica rice straws treated with shaking culturing for a week are classified, dried and weighted. The decomposition percentage of rice straws treated with different microorganisms is calculated by the following formula.

$$\text{Decomposition \%} = \frac{(\text{Total dry weight of fermentative rice straws} - \text{Dry weight of intact rice straws})}{(\text{Total dry weight of fermentative rice straws})} \times 100$$

As shown in FIG. 2, the PMBIII strain group has the best decomposition ability than the others. The decomposition percentage of rice straws is about 10.38%. The PMBIII consists of *Bacillus licheniformis* (PMBP-m5) (Patent Deposit Designation: PTA-5824, deposited on February 18, 2004 with the American Type Culture Center, Manassas, VA 20110-2209, USA), *B. subtilis* (PMBP-m6) (Patent Deposit Designation: PTA-5818, deposited on February 13, 2004 with the American Type Culture Center, Manassas, VA 20110-2209, USA), and *B. amyloliquefaciens* (PMBP-m7) (Patent Deposit Designation: PTA-5819, deposited on February 13, 2004 with the American Type Culture Center, Manassas, VA 20110-2209, USA).--